

Diary for this week 13th – 18th January

- Mon** 3.30pm Learner Bell Ringers practice
7.15pm Ladies' Group in Church House
- Tues** 9.00am Morning Prayer at St Bridget's
10.30-4.30 The Meeting Point in The Parish Hall (11.00 Yoga)
- Weds** 9.30am Bible study on Zoom
3.30pm Children's Choir in Church House
6.45pm Bell Ringers practice
7.00pm Bridge Club in Church House
- Thurs** 2.15pm Visiting Bell Ringers
7.30pm Prayer for the Vacancy on Zoom
- Fri** 9.30am St Andrew's Art Group in Church House
6.40pm Choir Practice
- Sat** 10.30am-2.30pm Private booking in Church House
7.30pm Bell Ringers Quarter Peal

There is also Morning Prayer on Zoom Mon and Thurs each week – see email or contact the office for the link.

Next Sunday: 19th January (Epiphany 2)

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|---------|------------------|--------------|
| 9.15am | Morning Prayer | St Bridget's |
| 10.45am | Informal Worship | Church House |
| 5.00pm | Evensong | St Andrew's |

Giving to St Andrew's or St Bridget's

To support our churches the easiest way is through bank transfer to Backwell PCC: sort code 60-14-49 account No. 41004027 (alternatively, try the contactless station); to Backwell PCC Missions & Charities: Sort code 60-14-49; Account no. 41004035; quoting "USPG"; to St Bridget's to Chelvey PCC: Sort Code 60-14-49 account No. 05021715.

Advent Sermon Series

We hope you enjoyed following the daily readings and the sermon series during Advent. Whether you followed with a copy of the book or simply read the daily Bible passages, it would be good to have your feedback. Please send any comments to the office to assist future planning.

Diary Dates:

- 27th February Licensing and installation of Rev Sam Norton in St Andrew's at 7.00pm
1st March Curry Night in Church House supporting USPG.

Welcome to The Benefice of Backwell and Chelvey with Brockley 12th January 2025 Baptism of Christ



Welcome to our services today

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|---------|--|--------------|
| 9.00am | Little Lambs Baby & Toddler Group | Church House |
| 9.15am | Morning Worship
<i>Hymns: 87, 34, 93, 591</i> | St Bridget's |
| 10.45am | Sung Eucharist
<i>Hymns: NEH 52, SP 89, 261, 173, 162</i>
<i>Anthem: The Shepherds' Farewell (Berlioz)</i> | St Andrew's |

Coffee will be served after the 10.45am service.
We will be streaming the 10.45am service on our YouTube channel: <https://youtube.com/live/kxBnVFUf5D4>

Services and prayer during the week

Morning Prayer 9am Mon & Thurs on Zoom; also Tues at St Bridget's in person.

General Information...

St Andrew's and St Bridget's with St Nicholas'
<https://www.backwellchelveybenefice.org.uk/>
<http://www.stbridgetschelvey.co.uk/>

Rector

Vacancy – contact the Benefice Office (details below)

Ministry Team

- Rev'd Canon Peter Bailey 01275 790611
Rev'd Joan Rowe 01275 463214
Mr Martin Canning 01275 790309
Mr David George 07532202786

Churchwardens

- Backwell:** Mr Andy Pitcher 07837281158
Mrs Cherry Leake 01275 462365 / 07708883075
Chelvey: Mr Roger Watson 01275 462821
Mrs Sue Bougourd 01275 853879

Administrator: Benefice office - 01275 463469

Office open **Tues, Thurs & Fri 9.30-12.30**

admin@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

Children's worker: Timi Booy – 07540 058609

Working days: Mon, Tues and Weds

childrensworker@saintandrewsbackwell.org.uk

Please submit any notices for the weekly sheet by 9.30am on Thursdays.

Collect and Readings...

Collect for Baptism of Christ

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Readings for this week...

Acts 8.14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3.15-17, 21-22

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.' Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

For your prayers this week...

In the Anglican Communion: We pray for The Church of the Province of West Africa

Zambia: We pray for our link church of St Andrew's, Ndola North and their priest, Fr Collins Kampulu visiting us next month.

In this Diocese: Sabbath God, as we remember the lives of two abbots, Aelred and Benedict Biscop, we pray for monastic communities and their life of prayer and outreach, as they offer spiritual refreshment through retreats and quiet days.

In the Deanery: We pray for the Parish of Wraxall with Failand & Trendlewood, & for Revd Morey Andrews.

Jan/Feb/Mar charity: USPG

January Prayer Cycle: Long-thorn, Luntly Mead, Garstons Close, Marle Pitts, Slades Court

Church Groups: During January we pray for the Finance Committee and our Treasurer as we begin a new budget year.

January Baptism Anniversaries: Patrick, Charlotte

Backwell Junior School: We pray for our Pupil Chaplains, all Year classes, their teachers and classroom assistants.

Those who are sick or in need: Becky Jones, Estelle Wong, Jess Wong, Ed Hewitt, Grace Myahalaleel, Jenny Webb, Mike & Carol, Brenda Cooke, Lucy Goodland, Julian Barnett, Jane Hepburn, Margaret Dagger.

Those who we keep in our prayers: Sue Ashman, Zofia Matyjasik, Maureen Barnett, Vicky Dunscombe

Those who have died: Christopher Paish, Christine Lawrence, Alan, Graham Bowerman, Shena Jones, Jean Glasson

Anniversary of death: Gloria Johns, David Ratcliffe

Book Group

The group meets on Zoom on an occasional basis to discuss a book it has chosen – some old some new. This time we are about to start reading one of the older ones, Jane Austen's Persuasion. It would be lovely to see more of you in the Zoom chat in a month or so's time. If you need a copy, please contact Martin.

Backwell Prayer Watch

This month's meeting will be on Monday January 20th, 7.45pm for 8.00pm, at West Town Methodist Church (NB not at the Baptist Church as listed in the magazine) combined with a service for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All welcome.

St Andrew's Rota

A rota availability form for February, March and April has been sent out by email and there are paper copies available in church and in the Link. Please return completed forms to the office by Thursday 23rd January. Thank you.